

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An electron beam tube having a longitudinal axis and comprising a wall forming part of a vacuum envelope, ~~including~~ a balance ring, a ~~second~~ mounting component and ~~means~~ a member interposed between the ~~wall~~ ~~including the~~ balance ring and the ~~second~~ mounting component, the member having a lower coefficient of friction than both the balance ring and the mounting component, whereby the member is arranged to allow relative sliding movement of between the wall including the balance ring relative to and the second mounting component in a radial direction.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A tube as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, in which the member comprises an annulus.
- 4-6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) A tube as claimed in claim 1, in which the wall is ~~of~~ comprises ceramic material.
- 8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) An electron beam tube according to claim 1, wherein the balance ring ~~is of~~ comprises ceramic material.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An electron beam tube of the type having a longitudinal axis and a radial axis and comprising a wall, a balance ring and a mounting component, the wall ~~forming~~ comprising part of a vacuum envelope and being coupled to the mounting component by the balance ring in the direction of the longitudinal axis, the electron beam tube further comprising a member interposed between the balance ring and the mounting component to allow relative sliding movement ~~of~~ between the balance ring and the mounting component in a direction parallel to the radial axis, the member having a lower coefficient of friction than both the balance ring and the mounting component.

13. (Currently Amended) An electron beam tube according to claim 12, wherein the balance ring ~~is of~~ comprises ceramic material.

14. (Original) An electron beam tube according to claim 12, wherein the mounting component is a mounting plate.

15. (Original) An electron beam tube according to claim 14, wherein the mounting plate is of

copper, stainless steel or nickel.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An electron beam tube according to claim [[16]] 12, wherein the member is coated with friction-reducing material.

18. (Original) An electron beam tube according to claim 12, wherein the member comprises a layer of friction reducing material.

19. (New) An electron beam tube according to claim 1, wherein the mounting component comprises a mounting plate.

20. (New) An electron beam according to claim 19, wherein the mounting plate comprises at least one of copper, stainless steel, or nickel material.